

# CAL POLY Report

California Polytechnic State University  
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## DATELINE

(\$) – Admission charged

### Exhibits

**University Art Gallery (Dexter):**  
“Quick & Easy,” annual student exhibit, through May 5. Hours: 11 a.m.-4 p.m. daily plus 7-9 p.m. Wednesday.

### Wednesday, April 17

**Philosophy Colloquium:** Francisco Flores, “Philosophical Perspectives on  $E=mc^2$ ,” 9:10 a.m.; Rachel Fern, “Plato’s Poetic Philosophy: Effing the Ineffable,” 10:40 a.m.; Marcus Verhaegh, “Kant and Architecture,” 2:10 p.m., UU 220.

**Speaker:** Charley Trujillo, “Chicano Vietnam Veterans,” Science B-05, 4 p.m.

**Cal Poly Authors’ Reception:** Kennedy Library, 5 p.m.

**Performance:** “The Vagina Monologues,” Theatre, 8 p.m. (April 16-21) (\$)

### Thursday, April 18

**Music:** David Trasoff (California Institute of the Arts), “Classical Ragas – A Program of North Indian Classical Music,” Davidson Music Center 218, 11 a.m.

**Philosophy Club Panel Discussion:** “Postmodernism and Truth,” Science A-11, 11:10 a.m.

**Performance:** “The Vagina Monologues,” Theatre, 8 p.m. (April 16-21) (\$)

### Friday, April 19

**Open House:** “Passport to Poly.” (April 19-21)

**Brown-Bag Technology Seminar:** Pete Woodworth (ITS Media Distribution Services), “Desktop Videoconferencing,” Kennedy Library 510, noon.

**Performance:** “The Vagina Monologues,” Theatre, 8 p.m. (April 16-21) (\$)

### Saturday, April 20

**Open House:** “Passport to Poly.” (April 19-21)

**Performance:** “The Vagina Monologues,” Theatre, 3 and 8 p.m. (April 16-21) (\$)

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## An honor to present . . .



*Cal Poly President Warren Baker (left) presents Morehouse College President Walter Massey (center) with an honorary doctorate at the conclusion of the inaugural Baker Forum keynote address on April 5. Laurence Gould Jr., chairman of the CSU Board of Trustees, joined Baker in making the presentation. More than 400 people attended the event in the Cal Poly Theatre. The Baker Forum, held April 5-6, attracted scholars and industry and public policy leaders to discuss ‘The Future of Polytechnic & Science and Technology Universities.’*

## ME students exhibit flexible bolt at D.C. show

A team of mechanical engineering students has developed a flexible bolt that can connect parts of buildings and machines so the joints can “give” – opening up a whole new range of possibilities in construction, machine design, robotics and seismic safety.

The students showed off prototypes of their invention at a March 14 exhibition of student innovations at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. The “March Madness for the Mind” exhibit, sponsored by the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance, is an annual event featuring student inventions from around the country.

The flexible bolt, which the team dubbed the Flexibolt, is made of a flexible

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## Plant genetics expert named to professorship

The College of Agriculture has appointed Jeffrey C. Wong of the Department of Crop Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to its new J.G. Boswell Professorship, effective immediately.

Sara Hake, director of the USDA Plant Gene Expression Center in Albany, N.Y., calls Wong one of this nation’s most outstanding young scientists.

“I’m honored to be joining Cal Poly,” Wong said. “I feel that my research, teaching, outreach and collaborative experiences will make me a highly effective teacher, both in and out of the classroom.”

“Jeffrey’s acceptance of our offer is a major step forward for Cal Poly,” said Interim Dean David Wehner. “He was the unanimous choice of the search commit-

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## Leave solicitation

Lori Ann Walters, administrative support coordinator in the College of Agriculture Dean's Office, has qualified for personal catastrophic leave.

Eligible state employees may donate vacation credit and sick leave to help her remain in full-pay status during an extended absence.

Those interested in donating leave may request a Catastrophic Leave Donation form from solicitation coordinator Barbara Fenske at ext. 6-5158 or by e-mail.

CSEA employees in units 2, 5, 7 and 9, Unit 4 (academic professionals), E99 (excluded), C99 (confidential), M80 (management personnel plan) and M98 (executive) may donate up to 32 hours total. All other state employees may donate up to 16 hours sick leave and/or vacation credits per fiscal year in increments of one hour or more. □

## Robert Maurer, 89

Robert Maurer, a former faculty member and administrator at Cal Poly's San Luis Obispo and Pomona campuses, died in San Diego March 22.

Maurer began teaching English and psychology at the San Luis Obispo campus in 1948, becoming administrator of the Liberal Arts division in 1952. In 1956 he was transferred to the Pomona campus, where he served as dean of arts and sciences. After that campus became a separate state college in 1966, Maurer served as acting administrative vice president from 1968 to 1969, at which time he became director of graduate programs. He retired from the Kellogg campus in 1976 after 28 years of service. □

## CPR schedule

The *Cal Poly Report* is posted online at [www.calpoly.edu/~communic](http://www.calpoly.edu/~communic) every Wednesday during the academic year. It can also be accessed from the "A-Z" index on the Cal Poly home page. Click on "C."

In addition, copies are mailed to each department office for posting and to employees who do not have regular access to computers.

Articles are due to Public Affairs by 10 a.m. Wednesday for the following week's edition. Items can be e-mailed to [polynews@polymail](mailto:polynews@polymail) (add [calpoly.edu](http://calpoly.edu) if needed), faxed to ext. 6-6533, or mailed to Public Affairs, Heron Hall.

For more information, call ext. 6-1511. □

## Philosophy Colloquium set for today in UU 220

The Philosophy Department is hosting a daylong colloquium today (April 17) on topics ranging from Einstein's theory of relativity to Kant and architecture.

Philosophy Professor Francisco Flores will present "Philosophical Perspectives on  $E=mc^2$ " 9:10-10:30 a.m.; Professor Rachel Fern will talk on "Plato's Poetic Philosophy: Effing the Ineffable" 10:40 a.m.-noon; and guest lecturer Marcus Verhaegh will discuss "Kant and Architecture" 2:10-3:30 p.m.

The three lectures will be held in UU 220.

In addition, the Philosophy Club will hold a panel discussion on "Postmodernism and Truth" 11:10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursday (April 18) in Science A-11.

For more information, call the Philosophy Department at ext. 6-2041. □

## 'Chicano Vietnam Veterans' title of talk today

Decorated Vietnam veteran and author Charley Trujillo will present "Chicano Vietnam Veterans" 4-5 p.m. today (April 17) in Science B-05.

Trujillo is the founder of Chusma House Publications, a company dedicated to advancing Chicano literature. A native of the San Joaquin Valley, he served in the Vietnam War as an infantry sergeant and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals.

He is the author of two books, "Soldados: Chicanos in Viet Nam" and "Dogs From Illusion."

The presentation is sponsored by the Ethnic Studies Department. For more information, call ext. 6-1707. □

## Ticket information

Tickets to the performances listed in today's *Cal Poly Report* are on sale at the Performing Arts Ticket Office 10 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. Call ext. 6-2787, or fax your order to ext. 6-6088. Tickets can also be bought online via [Tickets.com](http://Tickets.com). Visit the Performing Arts Center's Web site at [pacsl.org](http://pacsl.org) and click on "Event Calendar." □

## Design Village 2002 to be 'Upside Down'

More than 120 students in 21 teams from 13 colleges across the western United States are expected to participate in this year's Design Village competition, to be held during Open House Friday-Sunday (April 19-21).

The students will build their self-designed structures Friday in Poly Canyon. Public viewing is Saturday, with shuttles running 10 a.m.-4 p.m. from the H-4 parking lot at Poly Canyon Road and Perimeter Drive. Entries will be judged 10 a.m.-noon Saturday. Awards will be presented at 11 a.m. Sunday.

The creations will be judged on craftsmanship, cost efficiency, excellence in design, public response and suitability to this year's theme, "Upside Down."

Design Village is sponsored by the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, with students from the college's departments organizing the competition.

This year landscape architecture students will represent the college with a suitably "upside down" installation in Poly Canyon's geodesic dome.

This is the event's 30th year.

For more on the college's Open House celebration, visit [www.calpoly.edu/~caed/](http://www.calpoly.edu/~caed/). □

## English Professor Inchausti to talk on Thomas Merton

English Professor and author Robert Inchausti will discuss American writer and Trappist monk Thomas Merton at 7 p.m. Tuesday (April 23) in Philips Hall in the Christopher Cohan Center.

Inchausti, who recently completed the book "Thomas Merton's American Prophecy," is the first speaker in the John Henry Cardinal Newman Lecture series.

Inchausti will present "Ask Me About My Vow of Silence: Thomas Merton - Contemplative Culture Critic." The talk will explore the reasons why Merton - considered by many to be America's most famous monk - was also a serious student of Buddhism, Sufism (a form of Islamic mysticism), neo-Marxism, black power, psychoanalysis and feminism.

The lecture is the first of a planned annual series dealing with the intellectual crossroads between philosophy and theology in contemporary culture. The series is sponsored by the Newman Catholic Center. For more information, call English Professor John Hampsey at ext. 6-2239. □



## M.S. program to be offered in polymers and coatings

The Chancellor's Office has approved a new five-year pilot Master of Science degree program in polymers and coating science. The program, part of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department, will be coordinated by Professor Dane Jones.

The program will appear in the 2003-2005 Catalog. Cal Poly will offer the program from fall 2002 to fall 2007. Students will be admitted to the program for fall 2007 and later if the program is approved for regular-program status. □

## Funds available to help probationary faculty

Probationary faculty members are invited to submit proposals for research projects and other scholarly activity that would assist them in achieving tenure and promotion. The Foundation has funds for University Services Summer Grants of up to \$5,000 each.

Awards will be made on a competitive basis. The deadline to submit proposals is May 13. Applications and guidelines are available in the Office of Campus Relations, Room 113 in the Health Center. □

## Credit Report deadline May 3; photos invited

The deadline to submit copy for the spring issue of *The Credit Report* is May 3, and those submitting information are invited to send photos for possible inclusion.

Photos may be either simple "mug" shots or, if available, photos showing a research project or presentation in progress or showing the location where a credit item has occurred.

Those submitting entries listing more than four or five publications, presentations, etc., should remember to put the first few in descending order of importance and, if possible, summarize remaining items. The editors will apply editorial discretion to longer submissions.

Submit text by e-mail to [polynews@polymail](mailto:polynews@polymail) (add [calpoly.edu](mailto:calpoly.edu) if necessary). Photos should be mailed to Public Affairs and will be returned if requested. Complete guidelines for what items are appropriate are available on the Web at [www.calpoly.edu/~communic/creditguide.html](http://www.calpoly.edu/~communic/creditguide.html). For more information call Public Affairs at ext. 6-1511. □

## Cultural Awareness talk to focus on campus climate

A recognized expert on racial dynamics in higher education will facilitate a discussion about Cal Poly's campus climate and what members of the university community can do to improve it at the next Cultural Awareness Committee Lunch-Time Discussion on April 25.

Jeffrey Milem, associate professor for the higher education administration program in the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership at the University of Maryland, will lead the conversation 11 a.m.-noon in Philips Hall in the Christopher Cohan Center.

Milem's research focuses on racial dynamics in higher education, the educational outcomes of diversity, and the impact of college on students. He has authored numerous publications on the educational benefits of diversity, improving the campus climate for racial-ethnic diversity in higher education, and research on college student retention.

Milem assisted Cal Poly during the Western Association of Schools and Colleges reaccreditation process and is a consultant to the campus in the administration of a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education that will focus on bridging the digital divide through partnerships with K-12 schools and mentoring and student retention programs.

The discussion is part of a series that focuses on diversity-related issues. For information about the discussion group, future topics and the Cultural Awareness Committee, call Bonnie Krupp at ext. 6-5406 or Gail Simmons, ext. 6-2803. □

## Online Cal Poly Report now has live Web links

The online *Cal Poly Report* now has live links to Web sites. Click on the green Web addresses and links in the articles to find more information about a topic.

E-mail addresses, however, are not "live" links.

Copies of the *Cal Poly Report* online can be printed. Anyone who experiences problems during the printing process should check the print control setup and make sure the print quality is set at "normal" or above, not "economy" or "low."

For help with printer problems, contact the Help Desk at ext. 6-7000. □



Olga Loya

## Bilingual storyteller to entertain Monday

Nationally acclaimed Mexican-American storyteller Olga Loya will perform an evening of bilingual tales designed especially for families and children at 7 p.m. Monday (April 22) in Chumash Auditorium. Admission is free.

A native of East Los Angeles, Loya tells stories of her Mexican culture simultaneously in Spanish and English in a program of family stories, folk tales, myths and legends.

Loya has performed and given workshops throughout the United States and Mexico. Her repertoire includes stories from Africa, India, Asia and Europe as well as Latin America, and her performances are a mix of story and theater that includes song, musical instruments and dance.

Loya was chosen for the California Arts Council Performing Arts Touring Roster for 2001-2002. She is also the author of an award-winning book, "Momentos Mágicos" ("Magic Moments"), a collection of bilingual stories from Latin America.

"(Loya's) ability to captivate a large audience was a wonderful thing to behold," said Jim Johnson, dean of Modesto Junior College. "(Her) stories not only entertained us, but made us all consider their universal truths about the human condition."

The program is sponsored by the Liberal Studies Program with funding from a California Arts Council Demonstration Project. □



## ME students exhibit . . .

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core with threads that can rotate or slide relative to each other.

Among the Flexibolt's possible uses, team advisor and Mechanical Engineering Professor Saeed Niku points to its potential for attaching two parts with mismatched holes, parts whose surfaces aren't parallel, and parts that need to move in different directions – in robotics, for example. In the area of earthquake engineering, flexible bolts would allow whole structures to flex so they could better withstand the jolt of a tremor.

The Flexibolt project received \$11,400 from the National Collegiate Innovators and Inventors Alliance and the Lemelson Foundation. Niku has filed a provisional patent application for the invention. □

## Plant genetics expert . . .

*Continued from page 1*

tee and is a perfect blend of teacher, researcher and mentor."

Wong has collaborated with researchers at many institutions, including UC Berkeley and the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York.

Wong is completing his doctoral dissertation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he earned a master's degree. He earned a bachelor's in biology from Saint Mary's College.

The new faculty position was made possible by the James G. Boswell Foundation of Pasadena, which provided a \$1.2 million endowment. □

## Lucinda Williams added to Cal Poly Arts lineup

Singer-songwriter Lucinda Williams, who recently won the Grammy Award for Best Female Rock Vocal Performance, will perform at 8 p.m. Tuesday (April 23) in the Christopher Cohan Center's Harman Hall.

Her music is influenced by a diverse array of artists, including Loretta Lynn, Hank Williams, Bob Dylan, the Doors and Jimi Hendrix.

Her breakthrough release, "Lucinda Williams," featured some of her best-known songs, including "Passionate Kisses," which won her a songwriting Grammy in 1994. "Car Wheels on a Gravel Road" led to her second Grammy award.

Tickets cost \$32 and \$38. □

## Public radio's Ira Glass to talk on 'making radio'

Ira Glass, host and producer of public radio's "This American Life," will provide an entertaining step-by-step guide to "making radio" at 8 p.m. April 24 at the Cal Poly Theatre.

During the evening Glass will lead the audience through the process of creating one of his character-driven documentaries, while revealing the secrets of making his celebrated programs work.

A question-and-answer session will follow his presentation.

"'This American Life' is public radio's fastest-growing program, a sort of 'Prairie Home Companion' with no comic Lutherans and a host who never insists on singing with his musical guests," wrote the Chicago Tribune.

In conjunction with the evening performance, Cal Poly Arts and the College of Liberal Arts will co-sponsor an on-stage interview with Glass and KCBX-FM radio's "Afternoon Classics" host Marisa Waddell at 1 p.m. April 24 in the Theatre.

The interview will last approximately 30 minutes and cover a broad range of subjects, including "This American Life," the current state of radio, and politics and society. After the interview members of the audience will be able to ask questions.

The free afternoon presentation is part of the Lyceum Series. Tickets for the evening performance are \$18 and \$22. □

## Dateline . . .

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**Music:** Music Department's Open House Concert with the Wind Orchestra, Christopher Cohan Center's Harman Hall, 8 p.m. (\$)

### Sunday, April 21

**Open House:** "Passport to Poly." (April 19-21)

**Performance:** "The Vagina Monologues," Theatre, 3 and 7 p.m. (April 16-21) (\$)

**Music:** All-State Wind Orchestra Festival Concert, Christopher Cohan Center's Harman Hall, 2:30 p.m. (\$)

### Monday, April 22

**Storyteller:** Olga Loya, Chumash, 7 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 23

**Speaker:** Robert Inchausti (English), "Ask Me About My Vow of Silence: Thomas Merton – Contemplative Culture Critic," Christopher Cohan Center's Philips Hall, 7 p.m.

**Music:** Lucinda Williams, Christopher Cohan Center's Harman Hall, 8 p.m. (\$) □

## Position Vacancies

**STATE:** The official listing of staff and management vacancies is posted at least two weeks prior to closing dates on Cal Poly's Web site at [www.calpoly.edu](http://www.calpoly.edu). (Select "Employment" from the Cal Poly links drop-down box.) As a courtesy to our on-campus employees, job vacancies also are published in the *Cal Poly Report*. Positions marked with an asterisk indicate that qualified on-campus applicants in bargaining units 2, 5, 7 and 9 will be given first consideration. Job applications must be received in Human Resources, Adm. 110, by 5 p.m. on the closing date.

**#323-Advancement Director (Administrator II), Library and University Center for Teacher Education Advancement Services, Academic Affairs.** Salary commensurate with experience and background of selected candidate. Closing date: May 10.

**FOUNDATION (Foundation Adm. Building, job line at ext. 6-7107).** All Foundation applications must be received (not just postmarked) by 5 p.m. of the closing date. (No faxes.)

**Irrigation Technician I/II, Irrigation Training and Research Center:** \$33,165-\$54,310/year. Closing date: Open until filled.

**FACULTY** Candidates are asked to contact the appropriate department office at the phone number listed for more information or to request an application. Additional information and qualifications for each position may also be obtained online at <http://www.academic-personnel.calpoly.edu>. Please submit all application materials to the department head/chair unless otherwise specified in the ad. Rank and salary are commensurate with qualifications and experience (and time base where applicable), unless otherwise stated.

**#4033: Lecturer(s), Part-Time, Mathematics Department (ext. 6-1227).** Closing date: April 30.

**#4083: Lecturer(s), Part-Time, Civil and Environmental Engineering Department (ext. 6-2137).** Closing date: May 24.

**#4108: Lecturer(s), Part-Time, Modern Languages and Literatures Department (ext. 6-1205.)** Closing date: April 26.

**#4109: Lecturer(s), Part-Time, Music Department (ext. 6-2607).** Closing date: May 10. □